



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 486

January Session, 2015

Substitute Senate Bill No. 253

Senate, April 7, 2015

The Committee on Public Health reported through SEN. GERRATANA of the 6th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING PAYMENT TO AN AMBULANCE SERVICE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) No ambulance service, as
- 2 defined in section 19a-175 of the general statutes, shall attempt to
- 3 collect payment from a person with health insurance for covered
- 4 services provided to such person prior to receiving notice from such
- 5 person's health insurer that it declines to pay for such services.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

| | | |
|-----------|------------------------|-------------|
| Section 1 | <i>October 1, 2015</i> | New section |
|-----------|------------------------|-------------|

PH Joint Favorable Subst.

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill prohibits ambulance companies from trying to collect certain payments. As this concerns private transactions, there is no state or municipal fiscal impact.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 253*****AN ACT CONCERNING PAYMENT TO AN AMBULANCE SERVICE.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill prohibits an ambulance service from trying to collect payment from an insured patient for covered services before receiving notice from the patient's insurer that it is not paying for the services.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2015

BACKGROUND***Insurance Coverage of Ambulance Services***

By law, health insurance policies must provide coverage for medically necessary ambulance services. A policy must at least cover such transportation to a hospital. Insurers are not required to provide ambulance benefits in excess of the maximum rates set by the Department of Public Health (CGS §§ 38a-498 and 38a-525).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 27 Nay 0 (03/23/2015)